



February 10, 1997

**VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS**

Karl A. Vick, Esq.  
Marshall, O'Toole, Gerstein,  
Murray & Borun  
6300 Sears Tower  
233 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606-6402

Re: Preparation of New Patent Application  
"DirecPC Gear Shifting"  
Our Ref.: PD-N96055

Dear Karl:

Please have a patent application prepared based upon the patent disclosure listed above, a copy of which is enclosed herewith. This disclosure contains information that is considered to be Hughes proprietary. Please treat them accordingly.

*If possible, I would like either Scott Gettleson or Danielle Johnston to prepare this application. The application should be prepared and filed within approximately the next 4-6 weeks, or by March 31, 1997.*

Please have the attorney contact the inventor, Doug Dillon, directly for his technical assistance in this matter. Doug may be reached at (301) 212-7876.

If you estimate that the application cannot be prepared for \$4,500 or less plus reasonable drafting charges, please contact me immediately. If you are unable to supply or support any of our standard checklist items, address the issue directly to me. In addition, please confirm receipt of this disclosure and indicate the responsible attorney for this case within a week of receiving this letter.

We will prepare the formal papers, obtain inventor signatures and file the completed application. Please prepare the formal drawings on Bristol Boards in India ink and submit them to this office in time for filing with the original application.

Karl A. Vick, Esq.  
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Do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions regarding this request. Your assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



John T. Whelan

JTW:kcm  
Enclosure

cc: Douglas M. Dillon (w/o encl.)